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CATHOLIC Care Volunteer Program

The Archdiocese of Sydney is working alongside our social welfare agency Catholic Care to roll out a volunteer program to help the needy access groceries, cooked meals, medicines and other necessities at this difficult time. You are asked to nominate a volunteer coordinator (not your Parish Priest or parish secretary) and 5-10 people in your parish who are young and healthy enough to carry out these visits to the needy. Please provide their contact details to Laura Rahill at laura.rahill@sydneycatholic.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

ABUSE IS A CRIME. THE APPROPRIATE PEOPLE TO DEAL WITH A CRIME ARE THE POLICE. IF YOU – OR ANYONE YOU KNOW – HAVE BEEN ABUSED, PLEASE CONTACT THE POLICE. ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN CONTACT THE SAFEGUARDING AND MINISTERIAL INTEGRITY OFFICE AT (02) 9390 5810

OR

SAFEGUARDINGENQUIRIES@SYDNEYCATHOLIC.ORG.

YOU MAY ALSO WANT TO SPEAK TO YOUR PARISH PRIEST WHO WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE. THE ARCHDIOCESE HAS A LEGAL OBLIGATION TO REPORT CRIMES TO THE POLICE.

Do you own a business? We would love to help you by letting everyone know. If you would like to advertise your business in our Weekly Bulletin, Please contact the Parish Office on 9604 1199. Limited spaces available. Low and flexible rates apply.

Advertising Space Available - Beginning New Financial Year

Quarterly (No Easter Ads): \$330
Half Year (26 Weeks - No Easter Ads): \$550
Annually (No Easter Ads): \$990

- 10% discount for parishioners who are actively donating via the St Gertrude's Fund.

Contact Parish Office - 9604 1199
Tuesday—Friday 10am—2 pm

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ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH

St Benedict's Church

Corner Justin & Neville Street
SMITHFIELD

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm;
7.30am (Italian); 10.30am; 6.00pm.

Weekday Masses:

9.15am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday;
7pm Wednesday

Weekday Public Holidays: 10.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Adoration:

Wednesdays after evening Mass with Novena to St Benedict until 8.30pm; Saturdays from 4.45pm—5.45pm; & Fridays after the 9.15am Mass

First Friday of the Month:

7pm Mass & Adoration

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Tuesdays after Mass & Fridays after 9.15am Mass with Exposition.



Parish Priest
Fr Jarek Zan OSPPE

Assistant Priests

Fr Wojtek Sliwa OSPPE &
Fr Peter James Strohmayr OSPPE

St Theresa's Church

Corner The Boulevard & Stella Street
FAIRFIELD WEST

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 5pm (Vietnamese);
9.00am; 12 noon (Spanish); 6pm (Arabic)

Weekday Masses:

Mon - Fri 7.00am; Saturday 8am
Weekday Public Holidays: 8.00am

First Friday of the Month:
from 6.30am

First Saturday of the Month:
7am Rosary 8am Mass

Chaplet of Divine Mercy:
Tuesdays after Mass

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

26 July 2020



We welcome the following

Savannah Bun
Baptised in our Parish Community

We pray for the sick of this parish

Giuseppina Pignataro, Charbel Kassas,
Fr Anthony David OSPPE,
Kevin Dicconson, Adam Westwood,
Emile &
Mary Kody, Kartia Grace Russell,
Gino Mifsud & Ivy Fernandes.

Bless our sick today so that they may bear their illness in union with Jesus' sufferings and restore them quickly to health

We remember in your prayers

Edwin Bruce, Jeanne Jarkey, Eddie Rogers,
Joseph Ruggier, Elisabetta Meduri,
Francesco Tosello, Teresina Bordin. Jill Wilson,
Giuseppe Bruscinio,

Recently Deceased

And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time
Santa Licciardello, Rina Favotto,



PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office:

6 Justin St, Smithfield
Phone: 9604 1199 Fax 9609 6585
Email: office@stgertrude.org.au
Website: www.stgertrude.org.au

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
& Friday (closed Wednesday)
10am - 2pm

Parish Council: Denise Namroud

Finance Committee: Tan Do
Andrew Maia: Work Health & Safety

Catechists: 9725 4317
Mimi Romeo: catechist@stgertrude.org.au

Sacraments: 9725 4317 Helena Martin
sacraments@stgertrude.org.au
Reconciliation/Eucharist/Confirmation

Liturgy: 9725 4317 Anna Kleibert
liturgy@stgertrude.org.au

Adult Sacraments (RCIA): Mariola Herbert
Every Sunday at 8.30am in the
Crying Room (in front of St Benedict's)
Contact Mariola: 0421 944 051.

Children's Liturgy: Mariola Herbert

Reconciliation:

Smithfield - Sat 4.45—5.45 pm
(or by appointment)

Baptisms: Parish Office 9604 1199
1st Sundays of the month during the
10.30am Mass at St Benedict's Church; &
Every 3rd Sunday at 12noon St Benedict's

Marriages: Parish Office 9604 1199
By appointment only (6 months required)

Sick Calls: 9604 1199
Any Time

Other: FCI (Italian Catholic Federation)
Tony Coiera 0409 908 424

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER

Intention for July

**Universal prayer intention—
Our Families**

We pray that today's families may
be accompanied with love, respect
and guidance.

Novena to St Benedict

Every Wednesday after the 7pm Mass
with Rosary & Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament.

Reconciliation is available during this
time.

Pope Francis's Prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you always shine on our path
as a sign of
salvation and of hope. We entrust our-
selves to you, Health of the Sick, who at
the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keep-
ing your faith firm.

You, Salvation of Your People, know
what we need, and we are sure you will
provide so that, as in Cana of
Galilee, we may return to joy and to
feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to con-
form to the will of the Father and to do
as we are told by Jesus, who has taken
upon himself our sufferings and carried
our sorrows to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge,
Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the
entreaties of we who are in trial, but
deliver us from every danger, O glorious
and blessed Virgin. Amen

Church Cleaners:

* Rostered cleaners will now resume.
August 1 ~ Group A Edith's Group

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Cf. Ps 67:6-7,36*

*God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.*

FIRST READING *1 Kgs 3:5.7-12*

A reading from the first book of the Kings

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97*

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. **(R.)**
2. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. **(R.)**
3. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. **(R.)**
4. Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. **(R.)**

SECOND READING *Rom 8:28-30*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *See Mt 11:25*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Mt 13:44-52*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Ps 102:2*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.*

Next Week: 17th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

Readings: Is 55:1-3; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21

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Gradual Reopening.

It is good to see that we have been transitioning very well with the gradual reopening of our Parish. Recent Government regulations which came into effect on Friday 24th July have limited funerals and places and worship to a maximum of 100 persons, providing there is a four square metre space around each person, with the exception of people from the same household. Therefore, St. Benedict's Shrine can have a maximum of 100 people. St. Therese has a maximum of 50 people, and the Montefano Hall a maximum of 90 persons.

We will still have in place an "overflow" Mass in the Montefano Hall if the need should arise. Archbishop Anthony Fisher has also issued a ***Seventh Pastoral Letter***. This is available on the Parish Notice Board outside St. Benedict's Shrine, or you can access a copy on the St. Mary's Cathedral website: <https://www.stmaryscathedral.org.au/>. Again, we thank you for your patience and understanding as we try to accommodate these new regulations.

COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

- ◇ **Contact Tracing:** Write your name and contact details on the sheets provided at the doors of St Benedict's, St Therese's, & Montefano Hall (these are kept for contact tracing and will be destroyed after 28 days)
- ◇ **Hand Sanitiser:** Use the hand sanitiser at the doors of the church. This is essential.
- ◇ **Sanitising the church:** After each service the churches and Montefano Hall are sanitised using commercial grade disinfectant detergent.
- ◇ **Seating:** Sit in the allocated seating. In both the churches there is an 'X' marked on the Pews, and in the Montefano Hall chairs placed at social distancing for you to be seated safely. Please **ONLY** sit where the Pew is marked. People living in the same household may sit together in the Pews.
- ◇ **Confession:** Confession times have resumed. Again, please only sit on the pews with the **yellow X**.
- ◇ **Sign of Peace** – with a nod, bow, smile or wave. No physical contact.
- ◇ **Receiving Holy Communion:** The recommended way of receiving Holy Communion is on the hand. People are advised about distancing and procedures when coming to receive Holy Communion.
- ◇ **Planned Giving & Collections:** At ALL Masses, there are two boxes at the doors of the church for 1st and 2nd Collection. You can place your offering as you enter or leave the church. Alternatively, you may wish to make use of electronic transfer. Details are in the bulletin Thank you for your continued support of your Parish and your priests.
- ◇ **Limiting exposure:** Health guidelines encourage us not to remain for unnecessary amounts of time in groups. It is essential to maintain social distancing.
- ◇ **At Risk Persons:** According to recommendations those at risk - **(those over 70 years of age, those with any symptoms, those with compromised immune or respiratory systems)**, are asked to consider carefully your health and safety when considering attending a Church Service. If you show any symptoms, please refrain from attending church services at this time. **The dispensation from Sunday Mass** is still in place by Archbishop. However, in his latest Pastoral letter the Archbishop states that **'those who are at low risk of infection and able...are exhorted to take all reasonable steps to attend Sunday Mass'**

I understand that we may feel some frustration at this time around certain regulations and recommendations but know that we are working in the best interest of all in our community. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

*** COVID19 Safety Procedures—Please see Church Notice Boards**

Parish Office Hours: 10am—2pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday **(closed Wednesday)**

Blessing of Drivers of Vehicles

Owing to the current public health situation we are unfortunately not able to bless cars this year as in past years. Instead, there will be a blessing of Drivers of Vehicles at all Masses.

House for Lease: The rental property on Neville St – adjacent to the Parish Car park – is available for rent. Any interested parties should contact Graham Ball Real estate 6909 1177.

Parish Sunday Mass timetable Questionnaire.

The Parish Pastoral Council is conducting a questionnaire regarding our Parish Sunday Mass Timetable. Of particular interest are our **7.30am and 9.00am Masses in English at St. Therese Church** and the alteration of the **Parish Sunday Mass in Italian at St. Benedict's, which is now at 7.30am**. We would particularly like to hear from those who regularly attend these Mass times. Questionnaire sheets can be found in the foyer of both churches. You can fill the questionnaire out and place in the box provided, or take the questionnaire home and return it by Sunday 9th August 2020.

Thank you for your participation in this Pastoral matter.

Church use during COVID-19.

Please take note that during the current Pandemic situation if a family has chosen a priest from outside the Smithfield Parish to preside at a wedding or funeral or other religious service, then it is a requirement that the family arrange for the church to be cleaned and sanitised. The Parish will only take responsibility for Parish events with our priests.

Sacrament News

With the continuing uncertainty at this time, and having reviewed the practicalities of guidelines set forth by the Archdiocese, the decision has been made for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion preparation to be deferred to June 2021. Children currently enrolled will prepare for First Holy Communion in May 2021 and ceremonies will take place in June 2021.

Similarly, due to timing constraints, social distancing restrictions, limited availability of catechists and adequate facilities to hold classes, the decision has also been made to postpone the Sacrament of Confirmation until September 2021. Families will be contacted in May, to organise class placement.

Any changes to the program will be published in the parish bulletin, should they occur. Enrolment information will also be posted to the parish bulletin at the appropriate time.

The Sacramental Office is currently closed. For all general enquiries, please email: sacraments@stgertrude.org.au.

Parental Petition – First Holy Communion

The Church has always held the view that parents are the first educators of their children in the Catholic Faith. Parishioners who attend weekly Mass, are known in our parish and to our parish priests, whose child is of age, and who feel that their child is suitably prepared to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion, may contact the Sacramental Office to discuss eligibility for an individual ceremony. Upon contacting the Sacramental Office, a meeting may be organised with the Parish Priest to discuss your circumstances further and a decision will be made at the Parish Priest's discretion.

Parish Donations

First Collection (Priests)

Account : Smithfield House – Order of St Paul the First Hermit
BSB 066711 Acct. No. 007392

Second Collection (Parish)

Account : Smithfield Catholic Church
BSB: 062784 Acct. No. 6675001

Thank you for your continued support and generosity . God Bless.

Safeguarding: The **Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney** have introduced new requirements for volunteers 18yrs and over. All volunteers must sign a **Volunteer Acceptance Form, a Code of Conduct for Working with Children** and complete a **Safeguarding Induction Training Course**.

The **ONLINE Induction Training Course** is available to new parish volunteers. Please register by following this link:-

<https://goo.gl/forms/wSkRi3ZO6PzkRfbo1>.

Additionally, some new volunteers are also required to attend an Interview. These include * Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Children's Liturgy, Catechists, Collectors, Acolytes etc.

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, ALL Safeguarding Training will be postponed until the start of September 2020.

Thank you for your co-operation. Any concerns please contact psso@stgertrude.org.au. or the Parish Office on 9604 1199 .